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PATENT APPLICATION  
Mo-7303US  
NRC P57**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICATION OF )  
LEONID N. SHEKHTER, ET AL ) GROUP NO.: 1742  
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/849,717 ) EXAMINER: G.P. WYSZOMIERSKI  
FILED: MAY 4, 2001 )  
TITLE: METALOTHERMIC REDUCTION )  
OF REFRACTORY METAL )  
OXIDES )

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(A)**Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants, by the undersigned attorney, respectfully petition the Commissioner for Patents under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the time for filing their response so that the REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (and enclosed PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT) filed simultaneously with this Petition will be considered timely filed.

(PRIVATE) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 20, 2003

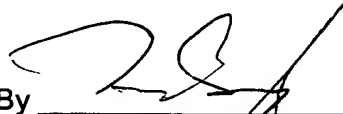
Date  
Diderico van Eyck Reg. No. 38,641  
Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative  
October 20, 2003 Signature  
Date

10/23/2003 AWONDAF1 00000012 502527 09849717

02 FC:1252 420.00 DA

Please charge the fee for response within the second month, \$420.00, to Deposit Account Number 50-2527. This paper is also authorization to charge any insufficiency of fees due with this filing to Deposit Account Number 50-2527. Triplicate copies of this paper are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Diderico van Eyl  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 38,641

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